THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) 40,650 (approx.) persons are to be accommodated in 10,100 intermediate shelters.

(c) As per present plan of construction, the intermediate shelters would be ready before onset of monsoon.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Government has approved a special package of Rs. 821.88 crore for Andaman & Nicobar Islands which *inter alia* provides for revival of fishery, and agriculture sector, relief, employment and sustenance allowance. The Tsunami affected persons have also alrady been provided with farm implements, carpentry/blacksmith tools, household articles and employed in various employment generation programmes in A & N Islands. Considering the future requirement of population, apart from temporary shelters, permanent houses have also been envisaged in a well planned manner with provision for schools, hospitals, health centers, play grounds and office premises for Tribal Council.

Setting up Fund Collection Mechanism

*314. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large portion of relief supplies, especially garments, from abroad meant for Tsunami victims has found its way to pavement markets in Delhi and other metros;

(b) whether the NGOs engaged in the Tsunami relief operations have alleged that maze of bureaucratic procedures for securing compensation, have frustrated the victims; and

(c) how many private trusts/bodies/institutions have set up fund collection mechanism for Tsunami victims and whether the receipts/ disbursements by these fund-raising bodies are monitored/audited by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No such reports have been received by the Ministry of Home Affairs so far.

(b) No such allegations have been received so far. The Government of India has announced a special package of Rs. 3644.05 crore named as "Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package for Tsunami affected areas" and the affected people are entitled for relief as per the norms and the package.

(c) The NGOs are not required to intimate the Ministry of Home Affairs about the funds or material collected by them and the utilization thereof in the first instance. These organizations are, however, required to file their accounts and or returns to the appropriate authorities where they are registered.

Recommendation of National Advisory Council (NAC)

*315. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister fo RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Advisory Council (NAC) has recommended any special programme with regard to rural development to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have submitted any action plan or status report on rural development to the NAC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) The National Advisory Council (NAC) have made recommendations to the Government relating to the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Watershed Development Programmes and National Rural Roads Programme. The National Employment Guarantee Act envisages to provide a legal guarantee for atleast 100 days of employment, to begin with, asset creating public works programmes every year at minimum wages for at least one able-bodied person in every poor rural/urban and lower middle class household. In the interim, a massive Food for Work Programme will be started.

2. Under the Watershed Development the NAC has recommended the following:

* the Programmes for the rehabilitation of degraded lands to be implemented in Mission Mode;
* to intergrate Watershed Development Programmes with the on-going Food for Work Programme (FWP);
* urgent identification of the degraded areas and to evolve mechanisms to select competent NGOs for social mobilization and institution building at the watershed level;
* revision in the guidelines to ensure equity and integration of the interventions by various Ministries;